

RECEIVED

MAR 06 1992

DIVISION OF
OIL GAS & MINING

3809
UT054
UT-054-92-01P

March 3, 1992

Ron Day
Rancho Equipment Services
P.O. Box 576
279 East Main
Delta, UT 84624

Dear Mr. Day:

We have completed an environmental assessment review (EA) of your plan of operation dated November 18, 1991. After visiting with D. W. Hedberg (UDOGM) and Bob Thomas (Rancho), some minor revisions to your plan were decided on. These revisions are analyzed in the EA. Examine your plan of operation as outlined in the EA. If you approve, please send us a letter of acknowledgement. Your plan, as put forth in the EA, has been approved contingent upon the acceptance of a reclamation bond by the Utah Division of Oil Gas & Mining and upon your acceptance of the following mitigations:

(1). All equipment will be removed from the mine area at the end of mine life or as soon as practical if no longer needed for mine operation. Reclamation activities should be conducted contemporaneously with mining to the greatest extent that this is practical. All topsoil will be salvaged for use in reclamation. The quarry area will be recontoured to approximate the original contour. No final slope shall exceed 3 horizontal: 1 vertical. The topsoil will be spread over the disturbed area and the following seed mixture will be drilled at the rate of twelve (12) pounds per acre, "Certified" pure live seed.

SEED MIXTURE TO BE DRILLED

lbs/acre

Indian ricegrass	<u>Oryzopsis hymenoides</u>	2
Great Basin wildrye	<u>Elymus cinereus</u>	1
Winterfat	<u>Eurotia lanata</u>	2
Black sagebrush	<u>Artemisia nova</u>	1
Forage kochia	<u>Kochia prostrata</u>	1

If it is not possible to drill the seed because of slope limitations, then the seed can be broadcast. If the seed is broadcast, then the application rate will be doubled. After broadcasting, the land will be lightly harrowed to bed the seeds.

T 13 to R 11W Sec 21
and
N 1/2 Sec 28

(10). All drill holes will be plugged as soon as practical and not left unplugged for more than thirty (30) days without approval from BLM and UDOGM. All drill holes will be plugged, sealed or capped in a manner consistent with UDOGM regulations.

(11). The operator will not restrict access through the claims associated with this plan by the general public. No gates or barricades will be placed on any access by the operator.

(12). Approval of this Plan of Operation will not now, nor in the future, serve as a determination of the validity nor ownership of any mining claim included under this Plan of Operation.

You have the right to appeal this decision to the Utah State Director, Bureau of Land Management, in accordance with 43 CFR 3809.4. If you exercise this right, your appeal should contain: (1) the name and mailing address of the appellant; (2) name(s) and serial number(s) of the mining claims; (3) a statement of reasons and any arguments you wish to present, which would justify reversal or modification of the decision. This appeal must be filed in writing in this office within 30 days after the date of this decision. This decision will remain in effect during the appeal unless a written request for a stay is granted.

Should you have any questions regarding this decision, please feel free to call Rody Cox or me at (801) 743-6811.

Sincerely,

Rex Rowley
Area Manager

Enclosure: NEPA Doc. No. J-050-092-035 EA

cc: D. Wayne Hedberg, UDOGM
Michael Jackson, RDO
Jerry Reagan, Millard Co. Planning & Zoning
J. L. Shields, 318 South 300 West, Delta, UT 84624

RC:msc

SUMMARY REPORT OF CULTURAL RESOURCES INSPECTION

Dept. of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Richfield District Fillmore Office

STATE PROJECT NO: U-92-BL-015b

1. REPORT TITLE: Rancho Mine
2. DEVELOPMENT COMPANY: Rancho Equipment Service
3. REPORT DATE: Feb. 20, 1992 DATE OF SURVEY: Jan. 23, 1992
5. BLM RESOURCE AREA: House Range 6. COUNTY: Juab
7. FIELDWORK LOCATION: The survey area is about 41 miles northwest of Delta, Utah and can be reached by traveling northwest along the Delta-Callao Road. The survey area is immediately adjacent to and north of the paved road.
MAP: USGS Topaz Mountain, 15'
- LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Section 21, Township 13 S, Range 11 W.
8. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Plan of Operations is to drill 6 7/8" diameter holes by 25 feet deep and blast to cover an area of 3,000 sq. ft. The process will be repeated as needed to quarry limestone.
9. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION: The project area has been previously disturbed by mining activity in the past and there is evidence of re-vegetation in some spots. The dominant vegetation is small sage mixed in places with russian thistle, mormon tea, saltbush. Various grasses can be observed such as rice grass, needle and thread. The soil can vary in color from buff to dark grey depending on location and is a mix of coarse-grained sand with silt and clay (60/40%). Surface rock varies from pebble to boulder in size. The majority of rock is grey limestone but outcrops of buff-light orange quartzite occur in the knolls.
10. DESCRIPTION OF EXAMINATION PROCEDURES: The area to be disturbed by the mining activity was examined by one archaeologist using pedestrian transects no more than 15 meters apart. Areas already disturbed by previous mining activity were not intensively examined.
11. INVENTORY TYPE: Class III, Intensive
12. LEGALLY DEFINABLE ACRES SURVEYED; 11.23
13. NUMBER OF SITES FOUND: None 14. COLLECTION: None
15. DESCRIPTION OF FINDINGS: No cultural resources were observed in the area surveyed.
16. ACTUAL/POTENTIAL NATIONAL REGISTER PROPERTIES AFFECTED: None
17. LITERATURE SEARCH, BY WHOM/WHERE/DATE: Nancy Shearin, BLM Richfield District archaeological site files, Jan. 22, 1992.
18. CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS: Since no cultural resources were observed in the area surveyed it is recommended that the mining operation proceed as planned.
19. FIELD SUPERVISOR: Nancy Shearin
20. PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: N. Shearin

Nancy Shearin

